

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/091,321

Examiner

Jimmy H. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

KANBE ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/22/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 18,20,23,31,33,41 and 45-50 renumbered as 1-12.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 April 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/974,496.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date attached herewith.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeffry H. Nelson on March 14, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 45 (renumbered as claim 10), line 27, replace "wherein÷" with -- wherein--.

Claim 50 (renumbered as claim 12), line 22, insert -- solely -- immediately before "during".

2. Claims 18, 20, 23, 31, 33, 41 and 45-50 are allowed. Regarding to claims 18, 20, 23, 31, 33, 41, 46-48 and 50, see the examiner's statement of reasons for allowance below. Regarding to claims 45 and 49, see the examiner's statement of reasons for allowance in the Office Action dated 8/5/2004.

Reasons For Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the claimed invention is directed to an erasing device for a LCD panel whose pixels are driven by active elements, for erasing a display image on said LCD panel when a power source of a main body of said LCD device is turned off. Independent claim 18 identifies the uniquely distinct feature, "wherein said power source control circuit outputs to said source driver control circuit a source enable signal

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which is at a selecting level solely during the certain period", in lines 20-22. Independent claim 50 identifies the uniquely distinct feature, "wherein said power source control circuit outputs to said source driver control circuit a source enable signal comprising a display erase command, wherein said display erase command is outputted during the certain period", in lines 20-22.

Examiner agrees with the applicants (see pages 10-16 of the amendment filed on 10/22/2004) that the closest arts, as discussed in the Office Action dated 8/5/2004, Yasui et al (USPN: 5,248,963) and Tsuboyama et al. (USPN: 5,592,191) only teach a data side Vc control signal which is at a low level for allowing data to be written into pixels (see Tsuboyama et al, fig. 5C), either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jimmy H. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-7675.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m..

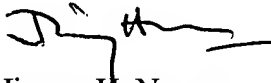
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached at (571) 272-7681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

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may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JHN
March 14, 2005



Jimmy H. Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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